

REMARKS

The Official Action mailed March 28, 2005, has been received and its contents carefully noted. This response is filed within three months of the mailing date of the Official Action and therefore is believed to be timely without extension of time. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that this response is being timely filed.

The Applicants note with appreciation the consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements filed on July 9, 2003; July 10, 2003; November 9, 2004; and February 1, 2005.

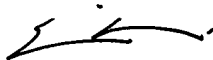
Claims 1-66 were pending in the present application prior to the above amendment. The Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of claims 8-21 and 39-56. Claims 23-29 and 58-66 have been canceled, claims 1-7, 9-14, 16-22, 30-47, and 49-57 have been amended to better recite the features of the present invention, and new claims 67-70 have been added to recite additional protection to which the Applicants are entitled. Specifically, independent claims 1 and 30 are amended to include allowable subject matter as described below. Accordingly, claims 1-22, 30-57, and 67-70 are now pending in the present application, of which claims 1, 8, 15, 30, 39, and 48 are independent. For the reasons set forth in detail below, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The Official Action rejects various claim sets as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,844,249 to Kawasaki et al. With respect to each of these rejections, independent claims 1 and 30 have been amended to include a conditional equation regarding the incident angle θ . From page 10 of the Official Action, this feature of the invention is believed to include allowable subject matter such that remaining rejected independent claims 1 and 30 are now also in condition for allowance. The remaining claims depend from an allowed or allowable independent claim and are thus also in condition for allowance. Reconsideration is requested.

New dependent claims 67-70 have been added to recite additional protection to which the Applicants are entitled and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons as above.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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